



STATE of WYOMING LEGISLATURE

Memorandum

DATE March 29, 2022

TO Senator Dan Dockstader, Chairman, Management Council
Representative Eric Barlow, Vice Chairman, Management Council

FROM Senator Baldwin, Co-Chairman
Representative Larsen, Co-Chairman

SUBJECT Continuation of the Select Committee on Mental Health & Substance Use

The Select Committee on Mental Health and Substance Use (Select Committee) respectfully requests that Management Council authorize the Select Committee to continue its work during the 2022 interim and through July 1, 2024, if so authorized by the Management Council of the 67th Legislature.

In 2020, Management Council created the Joint Subcommittee on Mental Health and Substance Use. It was comprised of eight total members from the Joint Appropriations Committee and the Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Interim Committee. In 2021, Management Council reconstituted the Joint Subcommittee as the Select Committee on Mental Health and Substance Use. The Select Committee is comprised of six members appointed by the President and the Speaker. The Select Committee is set to terminate in March of 2022.

The Select Committee has been closely involved with the recently enacted legislation that redesigns the state-funded system for providing mental health and substance use disorder treatment from a general access system to one that targets seven specified priority populations for the delivery of state-funded services.¹ These redesign efforts must be completed by July 1, 2024. The delayed effective date allows the Department of Health and other stakeholders, including the Select Committee, to continue deliberations and make findings and recommendations for the Legislature to carry out and refine the requirements of the legislation. It is imperative that the Legislature continue to monitor and assist with the mental health and substance use disorder treatment reform and transition efforts over the next two years.

¹ 2021 General Session and the 2022 Budget Session, 2021 House Bill 33 (2021 Wyoming Sess. Laws, ch. 31) and 2022 House Bill 38 (2021 Wyoming Sess. Laws, ch. 79).

We respectfully request that two members of the Legislature, one from the House and one from the Senate, be authorized and appointed to continue the work of the Select Committee. If the Management Council sees fit to expand the membership beyond two members, we recommend that not more than four members be appointed.

cc: Members, Management Council